

Translation from German

Dear friends of interreligious dialogue,

Dear organizers and participants of the InterFaith weekend,

On your 10th Anniversary, I warmly congratulate you on the impact of your interreligious project. Your commitment has been carried by the spirit of determination of the athletes and the enthusiasm of all participants until the present day. The impact of combining sport and religion has been a blessing. The hospitality of families and individuals here in Luxembourg has deepened the exchanges. Long-term relationships and even friendships have developed over the years. Quite a few runners have come back year after year. They have been inspired!

An encompassing spirit has spread across national and religious borders.

I can express it like this: Your project is under God's blessing.

Your commitment to peace is a valuable contribution in a world increasingly dominated by polarization - especially within Europe - where the world is more and more divided between native residents and foreigners and between people of different cultures and religions. There is an urgent need for people who create spaces for encounter so that mutual understanding and peace can flourish. This is not possible without dialogue.

As you know, the Pope is also called "Pontifex". That means bridge-builder. You, too, build bridges between people's hearts.

I encourage you to continue with your commitment as architects building bridges for peace. The world, with its many conflicts, desperately needs it.

You already have God's blessing!

Luxembourg, May 2018

+ Jean-Claude Hollerich
Erzbischof von Luxemburg